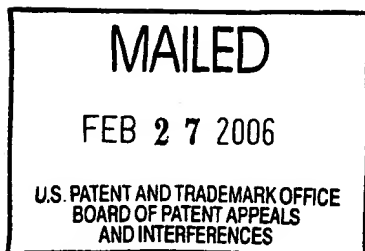


UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS  
AND INTERFERENCES

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Ex parte WALID S. IBRAHIM  
and  
CORNELIS VAN ZON

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Application 09/817,981

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ORDER RETURNING UNDOCKETED APPEAL TO EXAMINER

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This application was received electronically at the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences on January 27, 2006. A review of the application has revealed that the application is not ready for docketing as an appeal. Accordingly, the application is herewith being electronically returned to the examiner. The matters requiring attention prior to docketing are identified below:

The Appeal Brief mailed May 2, 2005 states that "[c]laims 1-24 have been presented for examination. All of these claims are pending, stand finally rejected, and form the subject matter of the present appeal" [page 3 under the caption "Status of Claims"]. The Examiner's Answer mailed October 20, 2005 notes

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that "[t]he statement of the status of claims contained in the brief is correct [page 2 under the caption "Status of Claims"]. However, the Final Rejection mailed July 28, 2004 and the Examiner's Answer fail to discuss the status of claim 24. Appropriate correction is required.

In addition, on January 23, 2006, a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) was filed. This paper needs to be considered by the Examiner.

Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that the application is returned to the Examiner:

1. for a determination regarding the status of claim 24;
2. for consideration and proper handling of the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) filed January 23, 2006; and
3. for such further action as may be appropriate.

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS  
AND INTERFERENCES

By: 

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Application 09/817,981

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